

PATENT
Attorney Docket No. 401297/SOEI

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

NOZAWA et al.

Application No. 09/899,191

Filed: July 6, 2001

For: LENS BARREL

Art Unit: Unknown

Examiner: Unknown

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PENDING CLAIMS AFTER ENTRY OF PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

1. A lens barrel comprising:
a plurality of cylindrical bodies expandable in a multistage fashion;
an optical lens system constituted by a plurality of lens groups disposed along an optical axis, all of said plurality of lens groups being accommodated in a leading cylindrical body to be extended among said plurality of cylindrical bodies; and
a driving source incorporated in said leading cylindrical body, wherein said optical lens system comprises at least one fixed lens group secured to said leading cylindrical body and at least one movable lens group movable along the optical axis upon receiving a driving force of said driving source.
2. The lens barrel according to claim 1, wherein said optical lens system comprises two fixed lens groups, said movable lens group being disposed between said two fixed lens groups.
3. The lens barrel according to claim 1, further comprising:
a movable lens frame having said movable lens group attached thereto;
a threaded shaft, in mesh with said movable lens frame, oriented along the optical axis of said plurality of lens groups; and
a rotary driving section for supplying a rotary force to said threaded shaft so as to rotate said movable lens group along the optical axis direction.
4. The lens barrel according to claim 1, wherein said lens optical system is a taking optical system of an optical device.